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THE HONOLULU ADVERTISER

Wednesday, May 16, 1984  
(Front Page)

## The dreamer couldn't wait

# Looking back, Kindschi sees signs

Fourth of a series

By Walter Wright  
*Advertiser Staff Writer*

When Ronald Rewald was flying high, wide and handsome through Hawaii's financial, political and social circles, few knew him better than Jack Kindschi.

When Rewald crashed in a pool of blood and money last July, Kindschi discovered he hardly knew him at all.

Now, in retrospect, aspects of Rewald's personality stand out for Kindschi as faint warning signals.

When they first met, Kindschi saw nothing about Rewald to suggest he was anything other than what he said he was. "He had a beautiful family. He seemed to have high moral standards. His relatives were very pleasant. I'm not a paranoid type of guy. . . . Maybe I should be by now."

Everyone else, too, seemed to think "Re-



**a spy's-eye view  
of ron rewald**

Continuing tomorrow in The Advertiser: Ex-CIA agent Jack Kindschi disputes Ron Rewald's claim that the CIA ran his bankrupt investment company.

wald was the greatest thing since sliced bread."

It is part of Rewald's defense that his own family was injured in the collapse of his company. Why, Rewald asks, would he injure them? Rewald's answer is that he didn't do it, that the CIA did.

Kindschi, former CIA station chief in

Honolulu and a longtime CIA agent, says there is another explanation: "Ron's temperament. Instant gratification. No patience. That's his style. I gave him a little plaque once which said, 'Lord, give me patience — and give it to me right now!' And he didn't like that at all. But he took it to his office and everybody laughed about it because it depicted him so precisely.

"He used to say to me, 'Money is a renewable resource.' I guess I never looked at it that way because I never had that kind of money. And if he saw something he liked, he bought it, he got it.

"He had to satiate or satisfy his impulses and desires at that time.

"And I think he trapped himself. It just got bigger and bigger and bigger.

"I think the whole thing snowballed on him and he thought he could get . . . the United States government to bail him out."

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## Reliving 'strange evening'

from page one

Kindschi said.

There is in Rewald, Kindschi says, a streak of Walter Mitty — the James Thurber character who lapsed into fantastic dreams of himself as romantic hero.

Kindschi says Rewald idolized Elvis Presley, and his dreams included running for the U.S. Senate from Hawaii. Rewald counters that he had no political ambitions, and that the Elvis Presley costume in his house belonged to his son, not him.

"It's very difficult to get into another person's mind, but I think he kept spending and kept spending and apparently it was part of a long-range plan, it would seem, inasmuch as he had all this insurance with the suicide coverage and everything," Kindschi said.

"Some people say that slashing the wrists is a cry for help. Nobody's really focused on the suicide. . . . It takes an unusual person to attempt suicide. How long was he contemplating it?"

In the preceding six months to a year, Rewald was "less jocular, a less carefree individual" than he had been earlier. On a cruise the Rewalds took with the Kindschis from Honolulu to Victoria early last summer, Rewald "didn't seem to be his

usual self."

And then, on the evening of Thursday, July 28, after they had all returned to Hawaii, the Kindschis got an unusual telephone call.

"My wife and I had finished supper, it was about 6:30 p.m., and Nancy called and she said, 'We were just sitting around, come over and have dessert with us.'"

"It had never happened before," Kindschi remembers. "And we were three-quarters of an hour away. Helen asked me if I wanted to go over, and I said, 'Let's do it,' because I wanted to ask Ron if he wanted me to attend the New Orleans hard money conference.

"We were there from 8 to 10 or so, about two hours.

"We looked at some pictures they had taken in Milwaukee, and Ron and I played a couple of games of pinball, and when we were walking back, past the kitchen, Ron gave Nancy a real dirty look.

"Jeff, the oldest boy, came in, talking about polo, and Ron ate him up one side and down the other. It was a strange evening.

"Nancy started combing the dog, and she was straining to carry on a conversation. She was not herself. Ron didn't eat his dessert, just a couple of bites."

Kindschi didn't know it, but

the eerie gathering was sort of a last supper. The day before, Rewald had written a check for \$23,000 to his wife. The next day, she was to take the entire family and leave the Islands. None of that was mentioned to the Kindschis, who were close to the entire family.

"I said something about it was time for us to go, and Ron said, 'Oh, so you're not having a good time,' and I answered back — it's kind of Midwest humor — 'No, this is really awful.'"

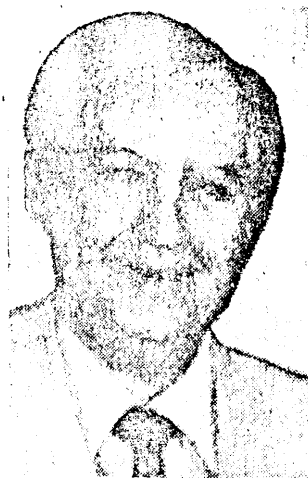
Rewald reminded Kindschi not to miss their usual meeting at Motorcars Hawaii that Saturday morning, Kindschi said.

As the Kindschis left on that Thursday evening, Kindschi recalled, he turned to his wife and said, "I don't know what the hell's wrong, but they don't seem to be happy."

Saturday morning, Rewald didn't show up at Motorcars. When Kindschi got home to Kailua, he says, he found two envelopes waiting for him. One was his twice-monthly paycheck from Bishop Baldwin Rewald Dillingham and Wong, \$2,000. The other was a check from Bishop Baldwin for \$145,000.

"I said, 'I don't know what the hell this is for.' . . . I was wondering if something was wrong."

That evening another consult-



Jack Kindschi  
Rewald "trapped himself"

ant, Ed Hoffman, called and told Kindschi about a television news program the previous night raising questions about the company. Kindschi went to Hoffman's house and watched a tape of the program.

Later that night, Kindschi got a call from Rewald's chauffeur, Franklin Kipilii. Rewald, Kipilii said, was in serious condition at Queen's Hospital. He had been found near death that day, his wrists slashed, in a Waikiki hotel room.

Next: After the fall, at Rewald's bedside.

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## *Rewald investors' spokesman says he will appeal sex assault ruling*

Former chiropractor L. Ted Frigard, who has emerged as a spokesman for some investors in the Bishop Baldwin case, said yesterday he will appeal a California civil court ruling that he is liable for a sexual assault on a patient in Stockton, Calif., in 1978.

Frigard, well-known in his profession for more than two decades, gained some publicity in Honolulu when he filed a \$10 million suit saying the CIA was responsible for his loss of \$300,000 invested in Bishop Baldwin Rewald Dillingham & Wong.

Stockton Superior Court Judge K. Peter Saiers, in a written decision reported last week, awarded \$14,500 for emotional distress and \$20,000 punitive damages to a woman who said Frigard treated her for a neck injury, put her on a vibrating table, turned it on and raped her.

The woman had sued for \$5 million; the judge said the verdict

would have been higher except that Frigard has little assets or property.

Frigard said yesterday he was stunned at the decision, absolutely denies the allegations, and will appeal the verdict.

Frigard lost his chiropractic license in California after he entered a "no contest" plea to a misdemeanor charge of battery on another woman who had accused him of rape. That victim has a \$5 million suit pending against Frigard in civil court.

He was represented in the 1973 criminal case by Melvin Belli, who is now handling Frigard's suit against the CIA. He was given a suspended jail sentence and a \$500 fine in the criminal case.

The California Board of Chiropractic Examiners revoked Frigard's license in 1979 on grounds of "various sexual acts and erotic behavior with female patients" over a 12-year period.

He moved to Hawaii in 1979.